

## **Joint Program Executive Office (JPEO) for the Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS)**

### *Organizational Overview*

The Joint Tactical Radio System, headquartered in San Diego, Calif, was initiated in early 1997 to improve and consolidate the Services' pursuit of separate solutions to replace existing legacy radios in the Department of Defense (DoD) inventory. The JTRS program has evolved from separate radio replacement programs to an integrated effort to network multiple weapon system platforms and forward combat units where it matters most – the last tactical mile. JTRS will link the power of the Global Information Grid to the warfighter in applying fire effects and achieving overall battlefield superiority.

JTRS was re-structured under a Joint Program Executive Office (JPEO) in early 2005 to strengthen the management structure, identify program interdependencies, and improve its engineering processes. The JTRS program encompasses six ACAT ID programs, which include the following product lines: Ground Mobile Radios, Airborne Maritime Fixed Site, Multifunctional Information Distribution System (MIDS) Handheld/Manpack/Small Form Fit, Joint Waveforms, and Network Enterprise Services. The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, approved the revised program structure in an Acquisition Decision Memorandum dated March 31, 2006.

JTRS is developing an open architecture of cutting edge radio waveform technology that allows multiple radio types (e.g., handheld, aircraft, maritime) to communicate with each other. The goal is to produce a family of interoperable, modular software-defined radios that operate as nodes in a network to ensure secure wireless communication and networking services for mobile and fixed forces. These goals extend to U.S. allies, coalition partners and, in time, to disaster response personnel.

Since the restructure, JTRS has enjoyed great successes in both developing capability and implementing innovative business practices. JTRS has successfully demonstrated initial networking capability in field testing and is focused on getting improved capability to the warfighter as early as possible. To accomplish this, JTRS has established several key business practices. These include a unique Acquisition Governance Model and a new Enterprise Business Model. The JTRS governance model decreases the time needed to produce acquisition decisions while still fully coordinating with stakeholders – increasing speed to market. The business model is focused on driving down costs while fostering innovation and competition. The model sets the rules for industry participation and ensures the JTRS family of radios is interoperable. Looking forward, the JTRS program has defined strategic priorities in areas of program execution, maintaining DoD leadership confidence, establishing a DoD Tactical Networking Center of Excellence, shaping the DoD radio environment, and enhancing the JTRS workforce.

The success of the joint warfighter depends on information sharing and collaboration among branches of the U.S. military and our coalition partners. JTRS radio systems will benefit the tactical user by supporting real-time battlefield awareness through an interoperable networked communication capability – enabling battlefield superiority in the last tactical mile.